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REMARKS

I. Introduction

In response to the Office Action dated January 9, 2007, claims 1, 2, 8, 9, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 and 21 have been canceled, and claims 3, 4, 6, 7, 10, 11, 13 and 14 have been amended. Claims 3-7 and 10-14 remain in the application. Re-examination and re-consideration of the application, as amended, is requested.

II. Specification Objections

In paragraph (4) of the Office Action, the specification was objected to because of certain informalities.

Applicants' attorney has made amendments to the specification as indicated above to overcome these objections.

III. Statutory Subject Matter Rejection

In paragraphs (5)-(6) of the Office Action, claims 15-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Applicants' attorney has canceled and amended claims as indicated above to overcome these rejections.

However, should issues still remain in this regard, Applicants' attorney requests that the Examiner indicate how the rejection can be overcome, in accordance with the directives of the Interim Guidelines for Examination of Patent Applications for Patent Subject Matter Eligibility (Interim Guidelines) II. Specifically, should it be necessary, the Applicants' attorney requests that the Examiner identify features of the invention that would render the claimed subject matter statutory if recited in the claim. See Interim Guidelines IV.B.

IV. Non-Art Rejections

In paragraphs (7)-(8) of the Office Action, claims 1-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

Applicants' attorney has canceled and amended claims as indicated above to overcome these rejections.

V. Double Patenting Rejection

In paragraphs (9)-(10) of the Office Action, claims 1-21 were rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-33 of copending Application No. 10/800585. In paragraph (11) of the Office Action, claims 1-21 were rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-15 of copending Application No. 10/800786.

Applicants' attorney submits herewith a Terminal Disclaimer to overcome these rejections.

VI. Prior Art Rejections

In paragraphs (12)-(13) of the Office Action, claims 1, 2, 5, 8, 9, 12, 15, 16, and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bonney et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,466,953 (Bonney) in view of Takahashi et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,339,439 (Takahashi). In paragraph (14) of the Office Action, claims 3, 4, 6, 10, 11, 13, 17, 18, and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bonney in view of Takahashi as cited and applied to claim 1, and further in view of Kintzley et al., U.S. Publication No. 2004/0088305 (Kintzley). In paragraph (15) of the Office Action, claims 7, 14, and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bonney, in view of Takahashi as cited and applied to claim 1, in further view of Mathews et al., U.S. Patent No. 7,047,180 (Mathews).

Applicants' attorney invokes 35 U.S.C. §103(c) to eliminate U.S. Publication No. 2004/0088305 (Kintzley) and U.S. Patent No. 7,047,180 (Mathews) as references. In this regard, Applicants' attorney submits herewith a Statement of Common Ownership executed by Richard M. Foehr, attorney for Autodesk, Inc., the assignee of the present invention.

Applicants' attorney asserts that this Statement is sufficient to render claims 3, 4, 6, 7, 10, 11, 13 and 14 allowable. Moreover, claims 3, 4, 6, 7, 10, 11, 13 and 14 have been rewritten in independent form to facilitate such allowance. Consequently, remaining claims 3-7 and 10-14 are now allowable.

VII. Conclusion

In view of the above, it is submitted that this application is now in good order for allowance and such allowance is respectfully solicited.

Should the Examiner believe minor matters still remain that can be resolved in a telephone interview, the Examiner is urged to call Applicants' undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

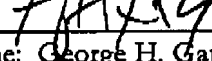
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